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September 16, 2005

FDIC San Francisco Regional Office  
Director John F. Carter  
25 Jessie Street at Ecker Square, Suite 2300  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Mr. Carter:

Please consider carefully the request to allow Wal-mart to proceed with the industrial loan company request. I would like to comment on the plans for Wal-mart to open an Industrial Banking (Loan) Company from the prospective of a small town community. We were all glad to see Wal-mart roll into town years ago. It seemed so great to have a large, clean store with all of the great items in comparison to the small selections available in the local hardware, dress shops and grocery stores. We wouldn't have to drive 30-50 miles to get a bigger selection. The problem is that most of those small shops are gone now. They were unable to compete with Wal-mart and I still drive 30-50 miles for a different selection. Many towns business operations are crippled by Wal-marts abilities to hold down costs until the competition is gone or crippled.

Wal-mart is not a friend to local competition and if we think it will be any different in the banking arena, we are just sticking our heads in the sand. Wal-mart is a giant and its bottom line is the main point. The costs involved with its operations across the nation can be managed more effectively if it can reduce the cost of processing the money it takes in and needs to operate. It already provides money transmittal services along with money orders and check cashing.

Again, I ask you to please consider carefully the long range ramifications of the Wal-mart request.

Sincerely,

  
Nina L Whittredge